

## CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

1. A headgear, comprising:

an outer shell having a continuous lower rim and a hollow dome extending from said lower rim to a central crown, said lower rim and dome collectively defining a forward portion, a rearward portion, and lateral portions of said outer shell;

an inner liner nested in the dome of said outer shell, said inner liner having a continuous lower rim and a hollow dome extending from said lower rim to a central crown to provide a head receiving cavity, said lower rim and said dome collectively defining a forward portion, a rearward portion, and lateral portions of said inner liner;

a headband, said headband having a forward portion and lateral portions respectively secured to said inner liner forward and lateral portions, and further including a rearward portion extending rearwardly from said headband lateral portions;

a venting system, said venting system including:

a first vent aperture formed in said crown of said outer shell;

a second vent aperture formed in said crown of said inner liner; and

said first and second vent apertures being in fluid communication with each other to provide a primary pathway for air flow between said head-receiving cavity and ambient air outside of said headgear; and

a plurality of third vent apertures formed in said inner liner in spaced relationship with said second vent apertures.

1 2. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said third vent apertures are in fluid  
2 communication with said first and second vent apertures.

1 3. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said third vent apertures are elongated.

1 4. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein some of said third vent apertures are  
2 situated on said forward portion of said inner liner and other of said third vent apertures are  
3 situated on said rearward portion of said inner liner.

1 5. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein at least a portion of each of said third  
2 vent apertures extends completely through said inner liner.

1 6. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said third vent apertures comprise  
2 elongated channels and holes extending through said inner liner.

1 7. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein there are four of said vent apertures.

1 8. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 further including a fabric inner lining, said lining  
2 having at least one opening therein in fluid communication with said third vent apertures.

1 9. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said venting system further includes an  
2 outer finial retained on said outer shell to cover said first vent aperture, said finial having a raised  
3 button-shaped appearance and air flow passages that are in fluid communication with said first  
4 aperture.

1 10. A headgear in accordance with Claim 9 further including an inner escutcheon located on  
2 an inner side of said outer shell and having air flow passages in fluid communication with said first  
3 and second apertures, said finial and said escutcheon being secured together such that said finial  
4 is retained on said headgear by said escutcheon.

1 11. A headgear shaped as an equestrian riding helmet, said headgear having an air vent system,  
2 comprising:

3 a central aperture system formed in said headgear at a central uppermost portion thereof,  
4 said central aperture system including inner and outer central aperture portions respectively  
5 associated with inner and outer sides of said helmet; and

6 a peripheral aperture system associated with said inner side of said helmet and in spaced  
7 relationship with said central aperture system.

1 12. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said peripheral aperture system is in fluid  
2 communication with said central aperture system.

1 13. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said peripheral aperture system  
2 comprises elongated apertures.

1 14. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said peripheral aperture system  
2 comprises first vent apertures associated with a forward portion of said headgear and second vent  
3 apertures associated with a rearward portion of said headgear.

15. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said peripheral aperture system  
comprises apertures formed as elongated channels and holes.

16. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 wherein there said peripheral aperture system  
comprises four vent apertures.

1 17. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 further including a fabric inner lining, said lining  
2 having at least one opening therein in fluid communication with said peripheral aperture system.

1 18. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11, wherein said vent system further includes an  
2 outer finial associated with said outer side of said headgear, said finial having a raised button-  
3 shaped appearance and air flow passages that are in fluid communication with said central  
4 aperture system.

1 19. A headgear in accordance with Claim 18 further including an inner escutcheon associated  
2 with an inner side of said headgear and having air flow passages in fluid communication with said  
3 central aperture system, said finial and said escutcheon being secured together such that said finial  
4 is retained on said headgear by said escutcheon.

1 20. A headgear, shaped as an equestrian riding helmet, said headgear having an air vent  
2 system, comprising:

3 a central aperture system formed in said headgear at a central uppermost portion thereof;

4 a peripheral aperture system formed in said headgear in spaced relationship with said  
5 central aperture system;

6 an escutcheon associated with an inner side of said headgear;

7 a finial associated with an outer side of said headgear and secured to said escutcheon; and

8 said escutcheon and said finial each including vented portions extending in said central  
9 aperture system.